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WKU Diversity Programs

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Making the Airwaves

by Carole N. Jackson

A Message to Broadcasting Majors

The bad news first: Broadcasting is one of the most competitive fields of employment today. Because of its glamorous appearance, thousands are scrambling for the few on-camera or on-air jobs. However, only the cream of the crop reap the benefits of this industry.

And now the good news: With consistent hard work, keeping your goals in mind, you can be up there with the best of the Robinsons, Simpsons, Gumbels and Bradleys in no time — or at least in your lifetime. The key is to start planning now. Hands-on experience is a must, even for landing that first job. "How can I get experience without a job?" you ask.

Western Kentucky University has opportunities for hands-on experience in news and production. The College Heights Herald is an excellent starting place for anyone who aspires to be an



ace reporter. The educational television center can give you an inside view of cable television production. WKYU-FM is a full-time professional public radio station with positions open yearly for student volunteers and some paid part-timers in news, production, and engineering. Both public radio and cable television are rapidly growing industries. If you're serious about finding a job, take advantage of these professional learning opportunities now. The experience you get, along with a degree, will separate you from those who cannot find work in their chosen field.

A question that often pops up during job interviews is, "Where do you want

to be five years from now?" Having specific goals is crucial in planning a successful career. It will make selecting classes or finding a summer employment so much easier because you can determine how the decision will affect your long-range plans.

You will stand out from thousands of applicants if you can walk into a station and say "Yes, I know how to do that," or, "I can adapt my skills to your system." It does make a difference.

Carole Jackson is a producer at WKYU-FM. She is also a public affairs anchor and host at Western's education television station. Carole hails from Columbus, Georgia, and is a graduate of the Henry W. Grady School of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Georgia. Before coming to Western, she served as a special assistant for Mrs. Coretta Scott King, president of the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change in Atlanta. She is an adviser to United Black Students.

If you are a broadcasting major and would like to talk further about planning your career, Carole would be glad to talk with you. She can be reached at WKYU-FM, 745-5489.

News Briefs

Scholarships

The Dow Jones Newspaper Fund is offering the Minority Editing Intern Program for college juniors. Inquiries about the 1984 intern program may be directed to Thomas Engleman, Executive Director, The Dow Jones Newspaper Fund, P.O. Box 300, Princeton, NJ, 08540.

College juniors should request an application form by October 1, 1984.

Conferences

The National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering will list its Fourth Annual Forum on June 5, 1984, at the AMFAC Hotel, San Francisco, International Airport. Leaders of industry, engineering educators, and minority program

directors are invited to participate.

Contact NACME, Inc., 3 West 35th Street, New York, NY, 10011, for registration information.

The Council for Exceptional Children will hold its 62nd Annual Conference April 23-27, 1984, at the Washington, D.C. Convention Center. Over 500 professional sessions are designed for regular class teachers, students in education, special education, administrators, psychologists, and other professionals involved in the planning and delivery of service.

Requests for additional information may be directed to the Department of Arts and Sciences, Hillsborough Community College, P.O. Box 75312, Tampa, Fla., 33675.

Test Scores Rise for Blacks

A new study directed by Zyle Jones, University of North Carolina psychology professor, suggests that

the gap between black and white student test scores will continue to decrease perhaps through the end of the decade.

The Study of National Assessment of Education Progress test scores (this test given annually to students ages 9, 13, and 17 in a nationwide sample) indicates that black students are closing the basic skills gap. Black students showed the most improvement in the verbal skills portion of the test, according to Jones. This year blacks averaged 10 points lower than their classmates, while in 1969 they averaged 20 points. This trend also coincides with improved test scores in the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT).

However, the American College Testing (ACT) scores dropped to their lowest point ever among all students who took the college admission test for the 1982-83 school year.

Afro American Studies

ASG: You Can Make a Difference

George Santayana stated that those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it. In other words, unless we remember and learn from past events, we will go through them again. Black people especially must take this to heart, for while we have had many illustrious people in our past who accomplished much, and while there were many glorious achievements, there were innumerable events that, if they were to occur again, would be a setback to black progress.

Ironically, all too often the problem black people face is not in remembering the past, but in **learning** it. Individuals and events in the black experience in the United States have often been omitted from the history books and from the school curriculum. Those people and events that are covered are often familiar to most of us, but the history of a people is often understood by realizing the contributions of those people and events that are not recorded in the history books.

There are several ways that we can remedy this situation. One is by taking it upon ourselves to read and study those materials that will fill in the gaps in our knowledge. This is often difficult because we may not be familiar with those sources that will be of most benefit, and we may not be knowledgeable enough to ask critical questions about what we do read.

A second way to learn this material is to take a course that focuses specifically on the black experience and that is taught by someone who is trained and well-read in the subject matter. For those people who wish to take this latter route, there are several courses that will be offered during the fall, 1984, semester for which you might wish to pre-register:

AFAS 190: Afro-American Experience. A survey of Afro-Americans and their contributions in literature (short stories, poetry, autobiographies), music (gospel, blues, jazz), art (religious, modern), folklore (storytelling, crafts), religion (preachers and sermons, religious experiences) and history (the making of America and black participation in it).

AFAS 393: Afro-American Literature. A survey of the contributions of black writers from the Revolutionary War (Phillis Wheatley, Jupiter Hammon, *et al.*) to the present (Nikki Giovanni, James Baldwin, *et al.*) We will study short stories, poetry, autobiographies, slave narratives, essays, and speeches, paying particular attention to how social and political change in the country affected the literature and, in many instances, how the literature affected social and political change.

However you want to learn about the black experience, whether it is on your own or in a course, you must become informed. Let us not make Santayana's statement a reality.

Dr. Marilyn M. White
Director of Afro-American Studies
Fine Arts Center 235
745-2401

The Associated Student Government of WKU is a link between the administration and the student body. ASG represents the voice of the students at Western in the form of bills, proposals, and other types of legislation aimed at improving student life at WKU.

But ASG needs your help. As a black student at Western you have a unique outlook on life and represent a wealth of talent that should not be wasted. ASG recognizes that Western's black students have special needs and interests. Would you like to see more black oriented entertainment and guest speakers at Western? Perhaps there are issues of interest to black students that you feel need more attention. Then consider becoming a member of ASG.

As a member of ASG you can have a say in the issues that affect all Western students.

ASG: You can make a difference.

Becoming a member of ASG's 84-85 congress is easy. All you have to do is be enrolled at Western full time (12 hours) and have a GPA of 2.25 or more. Applications are available in the ASG office located on the 3rd floor of DUC. For further information concerning applications and requirements for membership, call 745-4353, or 4354.

Organizations In the News

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority

Throughout the semester, the Deltas have been working on two major service projects. These two projects are the Delta Spirits and Adopt-a-Grandmother. The Delta Spirits is a group of young black high school girls who attend educational workshops. These workshops are comprised of information on higher education, financial aid, campus involvement, and the transition from high school to college. In the Adopt-a-Grandmother project, the Deltas have literally adopted an elderly lady in the community who is unable to care for herself. They assist this lady in several ways, such as cleaning her house and cooking her meals.

Delta Sigma Theta week will be celebrated April 1 through April 8. During this week, there will be a Greek display, fashion show, Greek luau, step show, and a rededication ceremony.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority

The sorors will attend the regional conference in Chicago March 29 through April 1.

AKA Week will be April 8-14. Activities will include the Miss Black Western Pageant with an academic scholarship to be presented to the winner, community projects, Greek step show, and various displays.

Planning a Successful Career One Step at a Time

As a college student, each year should be a stage for developing your career path through sound systematic planning. Many students find out too late, however, that they don't know very much about what they want to do with their lives, or even what they are qualified to do with the degree they have been working toward.

Planning for a successful career should start as soon as you enter college. Here's a simple system for career planning that you can use throughout your college years.



Freshman Year

1. Identify interests and aptitudes.
2. Learn about job market nationally and locally.
3. Develop good time-management and study skills.

Sophomore Year

1. Consider getting a part-time job.
2. Renew academic strategies.
3. Maintain alternative skills.
4. Get references on different jobs.
5. File degree program.

Junior Year

1. Make any necessary changes in courses.
2. Begin working on your resume.
3. Develop sound interviewing skills.
4. Begin selecting firms you'd like to work for.
5. Put credentials into the MESA system.

Senior Year

1. Begin interviewing.
2. Prepare letters of acceptance or refusal.
3. Maintain employer file.
4. Be positive, alert.
5. Fall back on alternative skills.

The Graduate Corner

Help Available During Finals Week



The Year in Review: Planting Seeds for the Future

The Black Graduate Student Services Program has provided assistance to many black graduates. More black students were enrolled and counseled this year than the previous year. Instead of despair, many black graduates discovered options and support for their educational goals. If graduate education is a major avenue to greater economic reward and social mobility then black graduate services must be integrated with the overall program.

Working together means more seminars on financial aid, graduate school preparation, library services, and identifying graduate needs. Although these seminars were successful in resolving some educational concerns, more involvement is needed. Instead of a reactive approach, a proactive approach is needed. When a proactive approach is used, black graduates are in a position for optimal educational and social success. Educational and social success is a direct result of sound planning and support. When everyone is working for a common goal, planning and support increase. Through increased planning and support everyone receives a similar reward: attainment of educational goals and knowledge to contribute to society.

The developmental studies office's tutor coordinator provides a matching service for students wishing to hire a private tutor in any subject. For further information, contact Nat Yoder between 1 and 3 p.m. in Gordon Wilson Hall, room 303, or by calling 745-4308.

Writing Labs for English 055, 101, and 102 are conducted in Cherry Hall, room 101, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and in Grise Hall, room 457, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday. Students who need to take the English 101 pass/fail can get special help here including practice with mock tests.

Math Labs are conducted in Thompson Complex, Central Wing Lobby, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Sunday, from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Monday through Thursday, and from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday. Special help is available for students in Math 109 from 11:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Wednesday.

Math labs are also conducted in Grise Hall, room 455, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday. The assistants in this lab are qualified to tutor Math 211 and 212, and help is also available for Math 109.

The Voice invites your submission of articles. The deadline for the first issue, fall, 1984, is May 13, 1984.

The Voice is prepared for and by black students at Western Kentucky University. *The Voice* will be published twice a semester by the Office of Scholastic Development, WKU, Bowling Green, KY 42101.

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